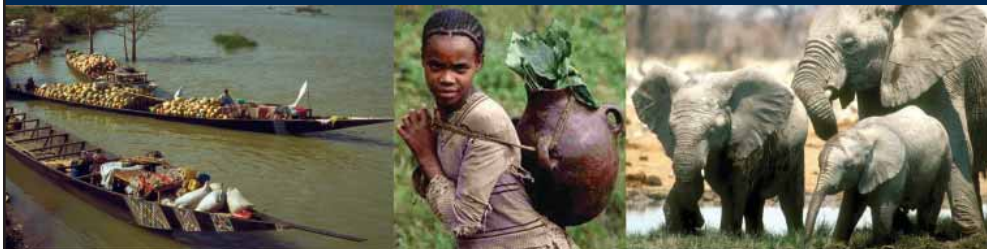




AFRICA'S LAKES

Atlas of Our Changing Environment



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Africa's Lakes: Atlas of Our Changing Environment

The dramatic and in some cases damaging environmental changes sweeping Africa's lakes are brought into sharp focus in a new atlas entitled **Africa's Lakes: Atlas of Our Changing Environment**. Produced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in cooperation with the Belgian Development Cooperation, the Atlas compares and contrasts spectacular satellite images of the past few decades with contemporary ones.

Africa's Lakes underscores the importance of developing, harnessing and sharing technologies that help provide deeper understanding of the dynamics of changes in Africa's lakes. The words and pictures within these pages also serve as a vivid reminder that Africa's 677 lakes are a source of livelihoods for many African communities, contribute significantly to socio-economic development of the continent, and that sound policy decisions and positive actions by societies and individuals are needed to sustain the lakes and the well-being of its inhabitants.

This Atlas is an effort to increase local and international awareness of some natural and some human-made changes. This comprehensive collection of 60 images, 40 photos and 15 maps demonstrates rapid shrinking of lakes, extensive deforestation, dramatic rejuvenation around lakes and transformation of scorching hot deserts to neatly tended farms due to lakes. The development of this visual proof of Africa's environmental changes revolving around lakes involved the input of 42 contributors from 16 organizations in 11 countries including Cameroon, Canada, China, Ethiopia, India, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Nepal, United States of America and Zimbabwe. Hardcopies of the book can be purchased at <http://www.earthprint.com>. For free downloads of satellite images visit <http://www.na.unep.net/AfricaLakes>.

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